

Princeton Collection of Islamic Manuscripts
Mrs. Dumont Clarke Collection of Arabic, Persian and Turkish
Calligraphy
Given in Memory of Prof. Lewis V. Thomas

The Clarke Collection of Arabic, Persian and Ottoman Turkish Calligraphy contains forty-two examples of decorative handwriting. Ten of the items are mounted and/or framed; the remaining thirty two are in fact, official documents. The items are presently housed in preservation boxes or protective wrappings and held in the Islamic manuscripts vault of the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, Firestone Library.

The list below is arranged numerically by box number. The number of items in each box follows this number. The Clarke Collection is catalogued as: Third Series number 306. Individual items are identified by collection number, box number (in parentheses), item identifier (lower case letter), language, and accession number (when known). Following each entry is a brief description of the item including material(s) used, dimensions, and the name of the composer or calligrapher, when known. Readers should request items by all three of these elements: collection number, box number, item identifier.

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| Shelf No. | | Date |
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| | Box 1: Five pieces, matted. | |
| 306: (1)a | Ḥadīth in vocalized naskh script. 11.5 x 8.4 cm. Three lines of text in two clouds with two medallions below. Each medallion has five lines of text; the right bears the date 1284 A.H./1867 A.D. Text is surrounded by a gilt framed by a blue border embellished with floral designs. Scalloped medallions with a stem of grapes at the center are found at each corner. Arabic manuscript. IAN 83:354 [AM 20173-8] | 1867 |
| 306: (1)b | Formulaic verse from the Qur'ān in Ottoman calligraphic style. 29.7 x 49.3 cm. Manuscript is dated 1291 A.H./1874 or 5 A.D. and signed by Muḥammad Evliyā. Black ink on buff paper. Arabic manuscript. IAN 83:355 | 1874 |
| 306: (1)c | Calligraphic design on heavy brown paper. 50.7 x 50.8 cm. The name Muḥammad is at the center, the name 'Alī is repeated five times around it, followed by a formulaic phrase. Outside these are five trapezoids containing text denoting 'Alī as the rightful successor to Muḥammad. The intervening spaces hold the names of the other three "Rightly Guided" caliphs: Abū Bakr, 'Umar and 'Uthmān. Outside this are four verses from the Qur'ān. The corners are decorated with floral designs. There is a 6 mm. wide gilt frame with ruled lines in blue. Arabic manuscript. IAN 83:356 | [n.d.] |
| 306: (1)d | Pen and ink drawing in two panels; 21.2 x 37.9 cm. Left panel shows the Ḥaram al-Sharīf in Jerusalem. At the center is the portal of al-Aqṣā Mosque and two minarets. Around the central image are drawings of other Jerusalem landmarks. Framed by a gray border 1 cm. wide. Right panel is a similar rendering of the Ḥaram in Madīnah. Locations of important sites in that city are identified in writing. Also bordered in gray, line drawings are highlighted with brown, green and yellow. The panels are separated by a row of geometric patterns tinted in pale yellow. The pictures are identified | [n.d.] |

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| | in ‘unwans at the top of each panel. Arabic manuscript. IAN 83:357 | |
| 306: (1)e | Four lines of poetry; 11.5 x 8.4 cm. Polychrome, floriated background. Signed: Faqīr ‘Alī (author? copyist?). Arabic manuscript. IAN 83:359 | [n.d.] |
| 306: (2) | Box 2: One piece. Calligraphic Arabic proverb. Framed and glazed; 47.5 x 38 cm. "‘Izz rafī dhull." Carved in plaster (?) and gilded. Pattern is tacked onto wood, covered with gold velvet and mounted in an ornate gilt plaster and wood frame. The piece is signed by: Ṭumā (?). Arabic manuscript. IAN 83:353 [AM 20173-14] | [n.d.] |
| 306: (3) | Box 3: One piece. Board, obverse covered in paper, painted and decorated with calligraphic designs; 33.6 x 29.8 cm. Reverse covered with marbled paper. Board is cupped slightly on the vertical toward the obverse side. Obverse design is the name "‘Alī", mirrored with intersecting "lams" forming an angle and joining at the top; the "ya's" join at the bottom, the right-hand one piercing the left. The design is framed by a 1.5 cm. border of brown paper set about 2 cm. from the edge of the wood. In the center is an intertwining geometric form in yellow from which sprouts a green stalk bearing 22 violet blooms in various stages of developments. Flanking the "lams" are two flowers surmounting similar geometric designs. These flowers are in blue, green, gold, red and violet. The spaces within the "‘ayns" have one lateral leaf in gray, green and yellow; the space between the two "ya's" has an open blossom in the same fashion. At the interior corners are geometric line designs. The work is signed: "‘Alī al-Waṣfī" and dated 1205 A.H./1790 A.D. Arabic manuscript. AM 20173 | 1790 |
| | Box 4: Thirty two pieces. | |

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| 306: (4)a | Berat: "Meçidî Nişân-i zişanî beratî." 57 x 35.9 cm. Tughra of Murat V in gold. Printed form. Text in black. Dated 3 Şevval 1293 A.H./22 Oct. 1876 A.D. Awarded to Mülâzim Mehmet Hayri Bey. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1876 |
| 306: (4)b | Berat: "Meçidî Nişân-i zişanî beratî." 56.3 x 35.9 cm. Printed form Tughra of ‘Abdülaziz. Text handwritten. Dated 19 Şafar 1290 A.H./19 Apr. 1876 A.D. Awarded to ‘Abdullâh Kâmil Paşa (?) Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1876 |
| 306: (4)c | Berat: "Meçidî Nişân-i zişanî beratî." 56.1 x 26.1 cm. Tughra of ‘Abdülhamit II. Printed form. Text dated 7 Sha‘bân 1299 A.H./24 June 1882 A.D. Awarded to Sağkolağsi Şabrî. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1882 |
| 306: (4)d | Berat: "Meçidî Nişân-i zişanî beratî." 55.9 x 36.2 cm. Tughra of ‘Abdülaziz. Text handwritten and dated evakhir Şevval 1282 A.H./Feb. 1866. Awarded to Binbâşi İbrâhim. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1866 |
| 306: (4)e | Berat: "Meçidî Nişân-i Hümayunun berati." 55.7 x 36.2 cm. Tughra of ‘Abdülaziz. Text handwritten and dated evasit Zilka‘de 1278 A.H./May 1862. Awarded to ‘Abdullâh Kâmil Bey. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1862 |
| 306: (4)f | Berat: "Meçidî Nişân-i zişanî beratî alisi." 26.5 x 36.1 cm. Tughra of ‘Abdülhamit. Text handwritten. Dated 22 Şa‘bân 1298 A.H./20 July 1881. Awarded to Kolağasî Yusuf ‘Izzet Bey. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1881 |
| 306: (4)g | Berat: "Osmanî nişani berat-i aliyesi." 55.8 x 36.5 cm. Tughra of ‘Abdülhamit II. Text handwritten. Dated 22 Şevval 1297 A.H./27 Sept. 1880 A.D. Awarded to Hüseyin Husnî Paşa. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1880 |
| 306: (4)h | Berat: "Meçidî Nişân-i zişanî berat-i alisi." 56.6 x 36.3 cm. | 1882 |

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| | Tughra of ‘Abdülhamit II. Text handwritten. Dated 9 Ramazân 1299 A.H./25 July 1882 A.D. Awarded to (?) Edip Efendi. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | |
| 306: (4)i | Berat: "Beşinci rütbe Meçedî Nişan-i zişanî berat-i alisi." 56.6 x 36.3 cm. Tughra of ‘Abdülhamit II. Text handwritten. Dated 17 Zilka‘de 1304 A.H./7 Aug. 1887 A.D. Awarded to (?) ‘Arif Efendi. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1887 |
| 306: (4)j | Berat: "Üçüncü rütbe den Nişan-i ali-yi Osmaninin berat-i alisi." 56.6 x 36.2 cm. Tughra of ‘Abdülhamit II. Text handwritten. Dated 5 Şevval 1307 A.H./25 May 1890 A.D. Awarded to Yusuf Bey. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1890 |
| 306: (4)k | Berat: "Meçidî Nişân-i zişanî berat-i alisi." 56.5 x 36.5 cm. Tughra of ‘Abdülhamit II. Text handwritten. Dated 12 Şevval 1301 A.H./5 Aug. 1884 A.D. Awarded to Yusuf Izzet Bey. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1884 |
| 306: (4)l | Berat: "Dödüncü rütbe nişan-i ali-yi Osmanî berat-i alisi." 56.5 x 36.3 cm. Tughra of ‘Abdülhamit II. Text handwritten. Dated 24 Ramazan 1304 A.H./16 June 1887 A.D. Awarded to Neşet(?) Nişan(?) Efendi. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1887 |
| 306: (4)m | Berat: "Dödüncü rütbe nişan-i ali-yi Osmanî berat-i alisi." 55.7 x 36.4 cm. Tughra of ‘Abdülhamit II. Text handwritten. Dated 16 Muharrem 1303 A.H./25 Oct. 1885 A.D. Awarded to Tabib İbrahim Bey. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1885 |
| 306: (4)n | Berat: "Nişan-i ali-yi Osmanî berat-i alisi." 56.3 x 36.2 cm. Tughra of ‘Abdülhamit II. Text handwritten. Dated 25 Muharrem 1301 A.H./26 Nov. 1883 A.D. Awarded to Edip Efendi. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1883 |
| 306: (4)o | Berat: "Meçidî Nişân-i zişanî berat-i alisi." 56.6 x 36.4 cm. | 1885 |

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| | Tughra of ‘Abdülhamit II. Text handwritten. Dated 28 Çemazülevvel 1302 A.H./15 March 1885 A.D. Awarded to Neşet. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | |
| 306: (4)p | Berat: "Meçidî Nişân-i zişânî berat-i alisi." 56.6 x 36.4 cm. Tughra of ‘Abdülhamit II. Text handwritten. Dated 26 Ramazan 1301 A.H./26 June 1884 A.D. Awarded to İbrahim Bey. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1884 |
| 306: (4)q | Berat: "Dödüncü rütbe nişan-i ali-yi Osmanî berat-i alisi." 55.5 x 38.1 cm. Tughra of ‘Abdülhamit II. Text handwritten. Dated 16 Şevval 1313 A.H./10 Apr. 1896 A.D. Awarded to ‘Arif Bey. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1896 |
| 306: (4)r | Berat: "Beşinci rütbe Meçedî Nişan-i zişânî berat-i alisi." 56.6 x 36.3 cm. Tughra of ‘Abdülhamit II. Text handwritten. Dated 25 Çemazülevvel 1319 A.H./9 Sept. 1901 A.D. Awarded to Süleyman Efendi. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1901 |
| 306: (4)s | Berat: "Dödüncü rütbe Meçedî Nişan-i zişânî berat-i alisi Diareçe e kayd edilmiştir fi 9 Şubat sene 1314." 55.9 x 37.7 cm. Tughra of ‘Abdülhamit II. Text handwritten. Dated 22 Şevval 1315 A.H./16 March 1898 A.D. Awarded to Mulâzimi-i evvel Osman Nürî. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1898 |
| 306: (4)t | Berat: "Hiçaz Demiryolu medalyasî berat-i alisi 819." 56.6 x 31.2 cm. Tughra of ‘Abdülhamit II, form printed. Dated 15 Çemazühire 1320 A.H./19 Sept. 1902 A.D. Awarded to Hulûsî Bey. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1902 |
| 306: (4)u | Berat: "Hiçaz Demiryolu medalyasî berat-i alisi 561, 1761." 56.4 x 31.2 cm. Tughra of ‘Abdülhamit II, form printed. Dated 17 Çemazülevvel 1321 A.H./11 Aug. 1903. Awarded to Tuhsîn Efendi. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1903 |

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| 306: (4)v | Berat: "Hiçaz Demiryolu medalyasî berat-i alisi 561, 1653". 56.6 x 31.2 cm. Tughra of 'Abdülhamit II, form printed. Dated 14 Çemazülevvel 1321 A.H./8 Aug. 1903. Awarded to 'Azîz Efendi. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1903 |
| 306: (4)w | Berat: "Yunanistan Muhasebatinde ibaz şecaat edenlere mahsûs te'sis olunan medalyanın berat-i alisi." 55.4 x 28.2 cm. Tughra of 'Abdülhamit II. Dated 27 Safer 1316 A.H./17 July 1898 A.D. Awarded to Süleymen bin Hâsan. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1898 |
| 306: (4)x | Berat: "Yunanistan Muhasebatinde ibaz şecaat edenlere mahsûs te'sis olunan medalyanın berat-i alisi." 56.4 x 28.6 cm. Tughra of 'Abdülhamit II, form printed. Dated 21 Zilkade 1314 a.H./23 Apr. 1897 A.D. Awarded to Osman Nûrî Efendi. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1897 |
| 306: (4)y | Berat: "Dödüncü rütbe nişan-i ali-yi Osmanî berat-i alisi." 55.5 x 38.1 cm. Tughra of 'Abdülhamit II. Text handwritten. Dated 26 Safer 1315 A.H./27 July 1897 A.D. Awarded to Kolağasi Osmân Nûrî Efendi. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1897 |
| 306: (4)z | Berat: "Liyahat Madalyasi berat-i alisi." 50.1 x 26.8 cm. Tughra of 'Abdülhamit II. Text handwritten. Dated 5 Zilhiçça 1317 A.H./6 Apr. 1900 A.D. Awarded to Osmân Nûrî Efendi. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1900 |
| 306: (4)aa | Berat: "Nişan-i imtiyaz madalyas." 58.4 x 27.7 cm. Tughra of 'Abdülhamit II. Form printed on both sides. Dated 10 Zilhiçça 1300 A.H./12 Oct. 1883 A.D. Awarded to Hüseyin Hüsni Paşa. Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | 1883 |
| 306: (4)bb | Berat: "Nişan-i imtiyaz madalyas." 58.4 x 27.3 cm. Tughra of 'Abdülhamit II. Form printed on both sides. Dated 20 Safer 1301 A.H./21 Dec. 1883 A.D. Awarded to Hüseyin Hüsni Paşa. | 1883 |

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| | Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | |
| 306: (4)cc | Berat: "Nişan-i imtiyaz madalyas." 58.5 x 27.2 cm. Tughra of 'Abdülhamit II. Form printed on both sides. Dated 21 Ramazān 1306 A.H./21 May 1889 A.D. Awarded to Yusuf 'Izzet Bey. | 1889 |
| | Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | |
| 306: (4)dd | Berat: "Nişan-i imtiyaz madalyas." 58.5 x 27.3 cm. Tughra of 'Abdülhamit II. Form printed on both sides. Dated 21 Ramazān 1306 A.H./21 May 1889 A.D. Awarded to Itayri Bey. | 1889 |
| | Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | |
| 306: (4)ee | Berat. 56.6 x 33.6 cm. Tughra of Mehmet V. Form printed. Dated 23 Rebiülahir 1334 A.H./28 Feb. 1916. Awarded to Suad Bey. | 1916 |
| | Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | |
| 306: (4)ff | Berat: "Madalya Berati." 38.7 x 26.5 cm. Tughra of 'Abdülhamit II. Form printed. Dated 10 Zilkade 1295 A.H./5 Nov. 1878 A.D. Awarded to Mulāzim-i evvel Yusuf Efendi. | 1878 |
| | Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | |
| 306: (5) | Box 5: One piece. Tughra of Mahmud II, Sultan of the Turks, 1784-1839. Carved and gilded wood. Gilt wood frame; floral design. | [n.d.] |
| | Turkish manuscript. IAN 83:358 [AM 20173] | |
| 306: (6) | Box 6: One piece. Tughra of Selim III, Sultan of the Turks, 1761-1808. Signed "Eser-i hame-yi Elhaç Mehmet Emir an Haçegan-i Divan-i Hümayun mütevelli Nur Osmanî Hala sene 1218" i.e. 1803 or 1804 A.D. Painted on linen (?). Includes depiction of an upholstered chair and two bonquets. Gold on blue background; chair cushion in green and white. | 1803 |
| | Turkish manuscript. AM 20173 | |
| 306: (7) | Box 7: One piece. Framed and glazed. Lithograph in four colors and gilding. 50.8 x 51.3 cm. Dated | 1897 |

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| | <p>1315 A.H./1897 A.D. and signed "Mehmet Çemaleddin bin Sami." A calligraphic decorative piece. A square frame composed of stylized tulip designs containing gilt arabesques. Corners are stylized fleur-de-lis. These devices are connected by a gilt vine motif and rests on a 6 cm. wide gilt band. Two band of Turkish poetry run along each interior side of the square. At the center, in a circle, is the name of Muḥammad the Prophet and the customary blessing which follows it (Ṣalla Allāh ‘alayhī wa-sallam) in the form of an Ottoman <i>Tughra</i>. In a circular band around this is the phrase in Arabic praising the Prophet. The space between the outer circle and the bands of poetry is filled with vine-like arabesques and tulip designs in blue, green, red and yellow. The piece was commissioned by the children of military martyrs' group and was printed in a limited edition of 1000 copies. Printed by ‘Alem Matbaasi. Frame is wood and carved gilt plaster.</p> <p>Turkish and Arabic manuscript. AM 20173-24</p> | |
| 306: (8) | <p>Box 8: One piece. Tughra of Ahmet III, Sultan of the Turks. Addressed to the Governor of Egypt. Dated 1708 A.D. Turkish and Arabic manuscript. AM 20173-24</p> | 1708 |